

Tenets of U.S. Spacesuit Knowledge Capture

The collection and preservation of spacesuit legacy will be a valuable resource to teams supporting future manned space exploration programs.

The U.S. Spacesuit Knowledge Capture (SKC) Program collects and preserves the oral history of spacesuits to educate its audience and enhance the chances for the success of future and more ambitious spacesuit system programs. These activities identify and collect the information that exists in areas across the Agency, and the processes help to efficiently manage the Agency's knowledge resources. The SKC team develops techniques and tools that enable teams and communities to collaborate across the barriers of time and space.

Without the spacesuit, Extravehicular Activities are impossible.

To advance human space flight, spacesuits must be advanced to shield humans from the extreme environments of space. Preserving and sharing spacesuit-related information increases the opportunity for advanced future manned space exploration.

Retaining and sharing the successes and failures of past lessons learned help continually build knowledge for future spacesuit projects and programs.

The main sources of information captured include recollections, conclusions, and recommendations of subject-matter experts; information in written, video, and audio formats; and hardware representing not only flight items and flight configuration items, but also mock-ups, advanced prototypes, and training equipment.

It took many people working together to design America's first spacesuit; it will take many people sharing knowledge to develop advanced ones for future NASA missions to succeed.

Accomplishments as skillful as extravehicular activities (EVA) take teamwork to make them successful. As part of the Johnson Space Center's (JSC) Policy Directive, the SKC Program encourages JSC organizations to promote knowledge transfer, collaborative sharing, and learning required for the success of NASA missions.

It is paramount to get the right information to the right people at the right time for the recipient to use it adequately.

The SKC Program helps people create knowledge and share it in ways that will measurably improve spacesuit performance. This information is available to the NASA and contractor EVA community, and events that are appropriate for public release are available to the public.